

Sinclair Broadcast Group's recent actions have illustrated the dangers caused by media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair stands to benefit from proposed changes to media ownership rules which the Bush administration endorses and which some FCC commissioners, most notably Chairman Powell, champion. So far, Sinclair has no plan to air a pro-Kerry/anti-Bush program to a similar sized audience. This poses a strident impression (if not fact) of impropriety and may well be unlawful under in-kind contributions rules. Chairman Powell's claim that there are no rules to allow the FCC to intervene is an insult to the intelligence of the public the FCC is meant to serve.  
Thank you.